REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-referenced application in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-22 are pending in this case. Claims 1-17, 21, and 22 have been allowed. Claims 19 and 20 stand objected to. No claims have been amended herein.

Claim 18 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Miyano et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,811,877). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. Claim 18 includes the feature of "a plurality of pins each having a series of contact marks, each set of contact marks being of substantially the same pattern and spaced by a predetermined pitch." Miyano does not disclose or suggest such a feature. The Examiner has identified element 11 (and the other mark opposite to it) in Miyano's Figure 3 as "a series of contact marks." However, Miyano refers to element 11 as a position hole:

> ...In order to prevent fine pattern deformation, a reinforcing member 3 for the processing of the lead frame is formed near the position of the fine pattern as shown in FIG. 3 which shows a lead frame having a lead frame pattern 9 according to the present invention. The etching and plating are processed in this shape. Then, a predetermined position is separated and electrically isolated before the connection with the LSI. A reference number 7 represents a processing part for a positioning hole, 10 a separate position and 11 a positioning hole. When this method is used, a processing of finer leads is performed, particularly the number of electrodes on the LSI chip has been increased.[1]

It is clear from the above description that MIyano's "position hole" is not a contact mark. The "other mark opposite to it," i.e. elements 10 is a "separate position"; not a contact mark. Even if one were to assume for the sake of argument that Miyano's position

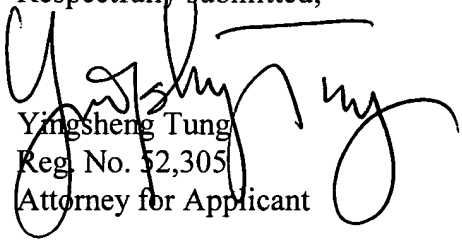
[1] US 5,811,877, col. 5, ll. 28 – 40.

hole and the separate position are contact marks, there are not located on the pins as required in claim 18. Therefore, applicant respectfully submits that Claim 18 is patentable over Miyano.

Claims 19 and 20 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. In view of the arguments above in favor of the patentability of Claim 18 from which Claims 19 and 20 depend, applicant respectfully requests that this objection be withdrawn.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of Claims 1-22.

Respectfully submitted,



Texas Instruments Incorporated
P. O. Box 655474 MS 3999
Dallas, TX 75264
(972) 917-5355
(972) 917-4418 (fax)

Yingsheng Tung
Reg. No. 52,305
Attorney for Applicant